

Cambridge Public Library
Board of Library Trustees Minutes March 1, 2022

The Board of Library Trustees met virtually via Zoom on March 1st at 5:00pm.

The following members were present: Chair: Kaija Langley, Karen Kosko, James Roosevelt, Nancy Woods. Also present: Maria McCauley, Muna Kangsen.

There was no public comment.

Minutes from the February 1, 2022 meeting were approved. Nancy Woods moved to accept, Karen Kosko seconded the motion.

General Update:

- Cambridge is lifting mask indoor public places 3/13
- Mask lifting in the library after 3/27/22
- The Board was brought up to date on Honoring Janet Axelrod with Nancy Woods speaking on the process and experience with the Cambridge City Council zoom meeting on February 28. The Policy Order 2022.30 was passed by the City Council. Nancy will follow up with the city council on the placement site of the signage honoring Janet Axelrod.
- Gift Acceptance Protocol was prepared by Pat Payne and Nancy Woods, Trustees, April 3, 2018. The Library Director has the final say in accepting gifts in the building and will work cooperatively with the Friends Organization and The Foundation. The Board will approve the protocol once we have input from the Friends and Foundation and the City Legal Department. The Board agrees with the Gift Acceptance Protocol as it is written.

The formal Board of Trustees meeting ended.

- In discussion: our Library is able to host in-person, virtual, hybrid programs.

Information of interest:

- Public can 'book space' under the normal guidelines.
- There are no longer food restrictions.
- The entire system "is getting back to normal hours except for staff shortages".
- On 4/4 Hive hours will be expanded.
- On 4/4 Boudreau Branch will expand hours.
- 50 positions filled and hired since July 1, 2021
- Currently 29 vacancies as of 3/1/2022

- [Added 2 new positions, Sunday Managers.]

Update on the Library Budget process:

- Finished the capital hearing, there will be a Public Hearing and City council meeting in June.
- In 2016, when Maria started at CPL, the budget was 9.7 million, the FY23 budget request is 17.3 million, [includes increased cost of living].

Looking for funding to add:

- Staff on every level, including L1
- IT support position,
- Communication Assistant position
- Digital Equity Manager for basic technology training, new applications, coding, design, develop curricula
- For Carrier pathways, RSTA students and Wentworth interns assisting.
- Study to get a single gender inclusive bathroom
- Central Sq study is already funded
- HVAC system for Collins and O'Connell

Trustees search:

- There are 18 candidates. All candidates invited for a 1st interview.
- Preliminary interviews are with Philecia Harris and Maria McCauley

City Manager search:

- Kaija is representing the Trustees with Randy Frank Consulting.
Zoom with Focus Group including other city commissions
- The search process continues through the summer.

Upcoming events:

- A Jazzy Afternoon with Abe Ovadia (Virtual) March 5, 3:00pm
- Joe Lunardi Presents: Bracketology in conversation with former Boston Globe Sports Editor, Joe Sullivan (Virtual) March 6, 3:30pm
- In Memory of Janet Axelrod Our Path Forward Lecture Series: Barbara F. Walter Presents How Civil Wars Start; in Conversation with Erica Chenoweth (Virtual) March 9, 6:00 -7:30pm

Also discussed: looking at the City's website and upgrading the Trustee's information on that website.

Informal meeting adjourned 6:15pm.

Next meeting: April 5, 2022 - perhaps in-person at the Main Library.